



M A G M A C O P P E R C O M P A N Y

FLORENCE PROJECT

January 19, 1996

Mr. Clyde Morris  
Section Chief  
Region IX  
Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, California 94105

15-1899/08/09

Subject: Aquifer Exemption Application and  
Underground Injection Control (UIC) Act  
Permit Application for the Magma Copper Company  
In-situ Leach Mine  
Florence, Arizona

Dear Mr. Morris:

At the instruction of Mr. Jose Luis Gutierrez, Project Officer for the Magma Copper Company (Magma) in-situ permits, Magma is hereby submitting the Aquifer Exemption Application for a minor exemption as per the requirements of 40 CFR 144-146. Also submitted is UIC Form 4 "UIC Permit Application", along with the required supplemental information.

Also included at the request of Mr. Gutierrez is Volume I of the Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) Application submitted on this same date to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), APP Mining Unit. Magma trusts that your staff will find the Aquifer Exemption and UIC Applications complete.

Magma would like to take this opportunity to commend you on the cooperation of your staff, and especially Mr. Gutierrez, in the preparation of these documents. Early on, it was recognized by Magma, the ADEQ, and the EPA that these applications paralleled sections of Arizona's APP Application. Through the suggestions and efforts of Mr. Gutierrez, and Ms. Shirin Tolle, APP Officer, Magma was able to organize the two permits at a substantial reduction of paper work and time. Ms. Tolle, as you are probably aware, is a Region IX EPA employee on temporary duty assignment to the ADEQ.

Magma has appreciated EPA attendance at joint Magma/ADEQ meetings, and in joint meetings with other interested parties.

Submitted with this letter are the following documents required by Mr. Gutierrez:

Volume I - UIC	Contains the Aquifer Exemption and UIC Applications.
Volume II	Site characterization. Volume II is the exact same volume for the UIC Application as the APP Application.
Volume III	Sampling and Analysis Plan. Same volume for UIC and Arizona APP Applications.

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Volume IV                      Hydrogeological Modeling. Same volume for Arizona APP and UIC Application.

Volume V                      Facility Design. Same volume for Arizona APP Application and UIC Application.

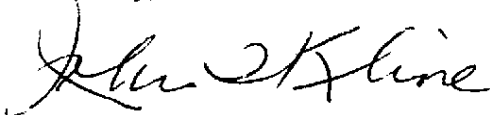
Volume I - APP                APP Application. Submitted at the request of Mr. Gutierrez.

Volume I - Appendix A        This appendix contains confidential business information submitted as part of the Aquifer Exemption Application. Magma claims confidentiality of this information under 40 CFR 144.5.

Magma is looking forward enthusiastically to working with Mr. Gutierrez and others on your staff over the next several months. This is a breakthrough project for Magma and the copper industry as a whole as this site would be the first fully-operational Class III copper in-situ mining of its type.

Congress, through its funding of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the Santa Cruz Joint Venture In-situ Project Site in Arizona, has recognized that in-situ mining is an efficient way of meeting the needs of the nation for copper as a strategic metal, and yet doing so in a manner conducive to minimize environmental impacts on the land. Magma believes this mine to be the first of several of its type over the next years.

Sincerely,



John T. Kline  
Environmental Project Manager

JTK:kw  
Enclosures *see attachment folders 1/8 - 5/8*

cc: Mr. Mike Eamon, Magma Copper Company  
Mr. Jose Gutierrez, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Mr. Charles Taylor, Magma Copper Company  
Ms. Shirin Tolle, Arizona Department of Environmental Protection